Appl. No. 10/054,131 Amendment transmitted on August 15, 2005 Reply to Office action of April 15, 2005

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

and the platens.

- 1. (Presently Amended) An apparatus for the production of wood composite boards, comprising:
 - (a) a press having platens for forming the board;
 - (b) a heating means comprising a heat exchanger; and
- (c) means for regulating the temperature of the platens, the regulating means including:
 - (i) means for circulating a heating fluid through the heating means
- (ii) means for detecting the temperature of the heating fluid as it exits the platens; and
- (iii) means for responding to the detected temperature for heating the fluid supplied to the platens; wherein the heating fluid is selected from the group consisting of heated natural gas, superheated steam, and heated oil.
- (Original) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the press is selected from the group consisting of multi-platen press and continuous press.
 - 3. (Canceled)